

Whatever Happened to Ruth (Mazur) Hart

Then	Capsule Summary	Now
	<p>Born in: Brooklyn, NY Grew Up in: New York, NY High School: Hunter College High School Undergraduate Degree: BS Math, Cornell Univ., 1967 Entered Purdue: Fall, 1967 Purdue Degrees: - MS CS May 1969 Lived/Worked in: Dayton, OH; Redondo Beach, CA Married to Hal Hart (MS CS '69), 1969-present Children: Erika (1978), Alison (1981)</p>	
Purdue Highlights		Post-Purdue Highlights
<p>Ruth Mazur entered Purdue immediately after graduating from Cornell in 1967. Her first assistantship was as a consultant in the bowels of the Math Sciences Building, where she helped debug programs for other students. (At his retirement party, one of Ruth's TRW friends, who got his PhD from Purdue in some Engineering field, revealed that he was among her first "clients.") After that first year, Ruth was "promoted" to Teaching Assistant, which meant that she had full responsibility for teaching 30-100 students taking Introduction to Computer Science. Quite a shock for an introvert! But she persevered, and got her MS in CS in May, 1969. By then, Ruth was engaged to fellow student Hal Hart, but, since Hal was about to be drafted, Ruth accepted a job with Bell Labs in Whippany, NJ, bought a car, and rented an apartment. Before she could start work, however, Hal flunked his induction physical, they got married in August, 1969, and returned to Purdue, where the CS Department graciously hired Ruth as an Instructor. She taught COMPASS (CDC assembly language), COBOL, and BASIC there for the next 5 years. Occasionally, someone tells her that she taught them way back when.</p>		<p>After leaving Purdue in 1974, Ruth (and her husband Hal Hart) joined TRW because they wanted to move to California. Unfortunately, the company fixed it so that the only jobs they were offered were in a field group in Dayton, Ohio, building a simple environment for an Air Force project, written in a new dialect of JOVIAL. After two years in Dayton, they were "allowed" to transfer to California. Ruth worked for TRW her entire career, until retiring in 2005, although technically she retired from Northrop-Grumman, which acquired TRW in late 2002. In California, she started out in a small research group, doing formal specifications of programming languages, then working on a secure operating system for an Army computer. Eventually she made her way into software project management of increasingly large systems. She also did some training along the way.</p> <p>Ruth and Hal have two daughters, one of whom followed in her parents' footsteps by becoming a software engineer (BSCS from Brown). Their other daughter works for Habitat for Humanity of Greater Los Angeles in public policy and community engagement. Neither one is married.</p> <p>In retirement, Ruth & Hal travel extensively all over the world, participate in a peer-led Learning in Retirement organization, and have become avid geocachers. Ruth also spends far too much time on the computer, playing Facebook games and chatting with a host of virtual friends.</p>